

Lasting light

SUNDAY *Plus*

21 JUNE 2026

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week IV** Year A

Day for Life

Be strong

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I assure you, unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains infertile. But if it dies, it produces a great yield. Those who love their own life lose it; those who hate themselves in this world will be preserved for life eternal. Let whoever wants to serve me, follow me; and my servant will be where I am. Whoever serves me will be rewarded by my Father...

You have just heard Christ's Gospel... that one must not love oneself so much as to avoid getting involved in the risks of life which history demands of us, that those who would avoid the danger will lose their life, while those who out of love for Christ give themselves to the service of others will live, like the grain of wheat that dies, but only apparently. If it did not die, it would remain alone. The harvest comes

about because it dies, allows itself to be sacrificed in the earth and destroyed. Only by destroying itself does it produce the harvest...

This holy Mass, the Eucharist, is itself an act of faith. With Christian faith we know that at this moment the wheaten host is changed into the body of the Lord who offered himself for the world's redemption and in that chalice the wine is transformed into the blood that was the price of salvation. May this body immolated and this blood sacrificed for humans nourish us also, so that we may give our body and our blood to suffering and to pain – like Christ, not for self, but to impart notions of justice and peace to our people.

St Oscar Romero was assassinated in El Salvador's cathedral as he finished giving this homily on 24 March 1980.



Let us go to Jesus. He can heal us. He can revive us. Jesus is our hope!

Pope Leo XIV

Prayer for Good Humour

Grant me, oh Lord, good digestion, and also something to digest.
Grant me a healthy body, and the necessary good humour to maintain it.
Grant me a simple soul that knows to treasure all that is good and that doesn't frighten easily at the sight of evil, but rather finds the means to put things back in their place.
Give me a soul that knows not boredom, grumbles, sighs, and laments, nor excess of stress, because of that obstructing thing called "I".
Grant me O Lord, a good sense of humour, Allow me the grace to be able to take a joke to discover in life a bit of joy, and to be able to share it with others.

St Thomas More

God of truth and mercy, calm my fears. Help me to proclaim your light boldly, trusting in your care. May I never forget that I am precious in your sight. Amen.

**Feast of the week
Monday 22 June**

**Ss John Fisher and
Thomas More (d.1535)**

Saints John Fisher and Thomas More are the best-known English Catholic martyrs who died for their faith during the reign of King Henry VIII. John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, was a brilliant theologian and the only English bishop to oppose Henry's divorce from Catherine of Aragon. Thomas More, a respected lawyer, humanist, and Lord Chancellor, also refused to accept the king's claim as head of the Church in England. Both men were known for their integrity, intellect and unwavering commitment to the Church. They rejected the Act of Supremacy, which required allegiance to the king over the pope, and were imprisoned in the Tower of London. Despite pressure and promises of royal favour, they stood firm in their beliefs. Fisher was executed on 22 June 1535, and More followed on 6 July 1535. Canonised in 1935, they are honoured as symbols of conscience, courage, and fidelity to the truth of faith.

READINGS

Today:
Jeremiah 20:10-13
Romans 5:12-15
Matthew 10:26-33

Monday:
2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15, 18
Matthew 7:1-5

Tuesday:
2 Kings 19:9-11, 14-21,
31-35, 36
Matthew 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday:
2 Kings 19:9-11,
14-21, 31-35, 36
Matthew 7:6, 12-14

Thursday:
2 Kings 24:8-17
Matthew 8:18-22

Friday:
2 Kings 25:1-12
Matthew 8:1-4

Saturday:
Lamentations 2:2,
10-14, 18-19
Matthew 8:5-17

Next Sunday:
Acts 12:1-11
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
Matthew 16:13-19



**The Catholic Parish of
St Mary & St John Fisher,
Denton**

Parish Priest, Father Joseph Gee

Parish Sister, Sr Dolores

Office: St Mary's Presbytery, Duke Street, Denton, Manchester M34 2AN.

Tel: 0161 336 2358

Email: rcdenton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Website www.stmaryandstjohnfisherparish.co.uk

Registered Charity no: 250037

**12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 21st June 2026**

The Word This Week

Today's Gospel turns our thoughts to the strange phenomenon of persecution: throughout the history of mankind, the truth has been a commodity that often leads to persecution: the prophets of the Old Testament were attacked because of their message, as was the Lord Jesus himself. For his followers, the same may be true. The point of the readings is not simply to face up to the reality of the opposition the Gospel may meet, but to remember where the truth of the Gospel comes from: the Father in heaven, who knows us and values us. So we can be confirmed in our mission to witness to the truth, not fearing those who merely kill the body.



Mass Times 21st June 2026		
Sunday 21st June	Vigil - Saturday 13th Sunday Morning	4pm - <i>Brendan Mullaney (RIP)</i> 11am - <i>Parish</i>
Monday 22nd	No Mass	
Tuesday 23rd	No Mass	
Wednesday 24th	No Mass	
Thursday 25th	No Mass	
Friday 26th	No Mass	
Saturday 27th Sunday 28th	Vigil Mass	4pm— <i>Nora & Jim Whelan (55th Wedding Anniversary)</i>
Saturday & Sunday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass

Mass Offerings :- Rory O’Riordan x 2 (LD); Jose (RIP); Tom Lally (RIP); Forgotten Souls; Bernadette Mulligan (RIP); Sr Catherine 80th birthday & Diamond Jubilee;

Please obtain permission from any living beneficiary of a Mass offering before sending it in.)

Lost Property:

We have recently found an item of Jewellery after one of the weekend Masses, if you have lost something, please contact the parish office, with a description of your lost Item. We would like to return this to the rightful owner

Vigil Mass; 4pm *St Mary’s, Denton* ; 5pm *St Josephs, Reddish*; and 6.30pm *Holy Family, Dane Bank*

Sunday Morning; 9am *St Joseph’s, Reddish*; 10am *Holy Family, Dane Bank* and 11am *St Mary’s, Denton*

Marian Procession 2026 Madonna Del Rosario Procession

The annual Madonna Del Rosario procession, organised by the Manchester Italian Association, will take place on Sunday 5 July. The procession will begin at 1:15pm from The Halle, St Michael’s, George Leigh Street, Ancoats. It will continue through Manchester City Centre to St Peter’s Square. All are welcome.

Book on the history of the Diocese of Salford presented to Pope Leo

Monsignor John Allen has harnessed his love of the geography and history of our diocese, by penning a special book which is being sold in aid of our diocesan charity Caritas Salford. The book, A Poplar History of the Diocese of Salford, was presented to Pope Leo recently, and you can read about it, or get a copy for yourself or someone else, on the Caritas Salford website:
www.caritassalford.org.uk/pope-leo-book

Red Mission Boxes

Any Parishioner who have **Red Mission Boxes** please bring them in to be emptied. The Mill Hill Fathers rely on the money raised from these boxes to finance their missionary work overseas and appreciate your support and generosity. The red boxes are emptied every quarter— March, June, September and December.

Altar Prayer Candles

Our Seven Day Candles can be lit next to the Sanctuary, Our Lady’s Altar and The Sacred Heart Statue at St Mary’s. To dedicate a candle for your own intentions please pick up a green form at the back of church and return in an envelope with your donation. This is another way for your special intentions to be remembered and prayed for in the Parish.

Pastoral Visits to Hospitals and Care Homes.

If you have a relative or friend who has been taken into hospital or has moved into a Care home, and requires a visit from a Catholic Priest/Chaplin for Pastoral support, please ask the Nursing staff to contact the local Hospital Catholic Chaplin or Parish Priest in that area.

For Care home visits, this would have to be carried out by the Parish Priest local to the home itself and may be outside of our parish boundaries. Homes that are in Stockport; Dukinfield and Hyde, are located in the Diocese of Shrewsbury, and unfortunately Priests from our Diocese have no authorisation in these areas.

Mass Intentions.

All the Masses up to the end of June have now been allocated. All Mass intentions received now until the end of June will be forwarded to Fr Laurence Gambella, to be said on our behalf. We will start allocating Masses again from the 1st July.



Happy Fathers Day

To all fathers and those who care for others as fathers, following the example of St Joseph.

Enjoy your special day!

New Monthly youth Group for Yr4,5 & 6

As part of our young people's Faith in Action programme, **we will be offering a group for children in school years 4, 5 and 6.**

The group will take place monthly and be from 6:30pm until 7:30pm.

Our Faith in Action young people will run it (though there will be adult supervision as well) and it will consist of liturgy alongside games and activities.

There is a maximum of 20 places and this will be on a first come first serve basis.

This is a lovely opportunity to allow our Faith in Action young people to develop their skills further as well as bringing the young of the Parish together.

If you are interested in your child attending or would like any further information please could you speak to Claire Cull after Sunday mass for a parental application form.



J	R	V	H	D	S	U	D	R	C	X	L
L	E	T	S	I	P	H	H	A	H	D	W
R	V	S	I	O	D	D	R	A	R	H	A
I	E	S	U	K	U	D	H	A	L	K	K
L	A	P	O	S	T	L	E	S	T	W	R
S	L	A	S	M	V	F	A	N	L	K	R
E	E	R	L	Z	K	A	V	I	Y	I	O
S	D	R	H	N	R	T	E	N	I	E	L
L	N	O	A	W	H	H	N	P	M	T	F
T	D	W	X	G	I	E	R	W	S	I	O
F	H	S	I	U	P	R	H	C	L	H	T
E	D	L	P	H	T	R	R	E	W	W	S

APOSTLES
DARK
DENY
FATHER
FEAR
HEAVEN
HIDDEN
JESUS
LIGHT
PENNY
REVEALED
SOUL
SPARROWS